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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
U. S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

By: Sara B. McPeak

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Robert K. Rowe et al.

Application No.: 09/415,594

Filed: October 8, 1999

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
IDENTIFICATION OF INDIVIDUALS
BY NEAR-INFRARED SPECTRUM

Examiner: Werner, Brian P.

Art Unit: 2621

AMENDMENT

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
U. S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 16, 2002 (paper no. 11), please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 2, 5, and 17; amend Claims 1, 3, 4, 14, 15, 18, 19, and 23; and add Claims 24 – 29 so that the pending claims read as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for verifying the purported identity of a target individual utilizing a number of authorization tissue spectral data from verified

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